



December 2024

NEWSLETTER



Hope Behind Bars

Over the past five months, Freda and Gima Waringi have been using the Shepherds Global Classroom curriculum to educate and uplift long-term prisoners in Papua New Guinea. They have taken 62 prisoners through their first semester of the SGC curriculum and are now training another 25. These prisoners are experiencing a deepening of their biblical understanding, which has fostered a powerful sense of community.

One of the most encouraging results of this ministry is that these students are now taking the lead in their cell blocks, guiding devotions and sharing their insights with fellow inmates. Once silenced by their circumstances, their voices are now filled with hope and conviction.

As we continue to provide the Waringis with a free, Christ-centered curriculum, we are grateful for your prayers and support. You, and others like you, are making this transformative work possible.





2024

PROGRESS

Global Training

Through my travels for SGC, I've learned that what we call "serendipity" is often God's providence. Last January, I taught at a pastor's conference in Peru and returned thankful for what God had done. A few months later, I received an email from a church leader who had picked up a sample of an SGC course while visiting the conference. Today, he uses our curriculum to train leaders in over 100 churches. Mere serendipity? No. It's God's providence!

I am a task-oriented person. Before a training trip, I have specific objectives that I want to see accomplished. But I am learning that God often has objectives that I don't expect, can't plan, and couldn't accomplish even if I tried! That is providence: God working to accomplish His unexpected purposes.

Dr. Randall McElwain

Director of Global Training

2024 Global Training Numbers

- 6 Countries Visited**
- 8 Training Events Completed**
- 223 Pastors Trained**



Our Growing Team

Tim Keep

(President)

Dr. Randall McElwain

(Director of Global Training)

Tim Keep Jr.

(Director of Communication)

Elizabeth Albertson

(Curriculum & Translation Project Manager)

Jeffrey Albertson

(Assistant Translation Project Manager)

Alima Sarigul - NEW!

(Assistant Translation Project Manager)

Ezra Morley

(Tech Specialist/Layout Editor/Assistant Editor)

Andrew Blankenship

(App Developer)

Becky Keep

(Assistant to the President)

Lesa Albertson

(Proofreader)

Ebony Thompson - NEW!

(Proofreader)

Heidi Echols

(Proofreader)

Dixie Epp - NEW!

(Assistant Editor)

Justin LePage - NEW!

(Accountant)

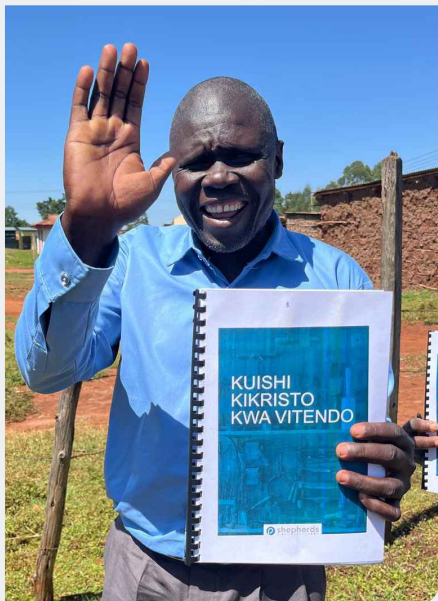
2024 Global Trainers

(Volunteer)

Johnathan Arnold

Dr. David Fry

Dr. Steve Oliver



Translations

In January 2024, Grace Bible Church in Idaho partnered with SGC to enhance our accessibility in India. This collaboration focuses on translating the SGC curriculum into Hindi and Bengali, the two most prominent languages spoken in the country. We have already finished several of the Bengali and Hindi translations and are excited to see the extensive impact that biblical training in these languages brings forth.

Aside from these two languages, We have also been moving forward with several existing translation projects. In 2024 alone, we thank God for:

45 New Translations
2 New Languages

Audio Courses

Early in 2024, we began working with the organization MegaVoice to adapt our printed courses into audio courses for the nearly one billion people worldwide who cannot read, are blind, or are visually impaired. So far, we have completed the following:

10 English **6 Spanish** **8 Portuguese**

All completed audio courses can be found on the SGC App.



Jeffrey Albertson

Assistant Translation Project Manager



One of the things I appreciate most about my role as a Translation Project Manager for SGC is the opportunity to build relationships with translators throughout the world. It's inspiring to see the vastness and diversity of God's family, with each translator laboring in God's Kingdom through SGC and in their own ministries. Each week, we have the privilege of bringing our translators' burdens and prayer requests—along with those of many end-users—to our Father in prayer.



ONE MISSION

OMS • ONE MISSION SOCIETY

One Mission Society (OMS) has embraced the vision of a church in every African village by 2050. As we work with others to meet that goal, we train church planters with a 4-year church multiplication course: the Village Church Planting program. This course is introductory, focused on the development of ministry skills, and suitable for villagers with minimal reading ability. However, with more than 15,000 churches planted through the new VCP program in the past four years, we wanted to complement our practical course with a program organized like a traditional Bible school curriculum.

We are happy to announce that in 2025, hundreds of graduates from our basic course, especially those who read with ease, will enroll in our Phase 2 program in dozens of training centers across Africa. Shepherds Global Classroom's Bible and theology courses will be our Phase 2 curriculum. Phase 2 students will continue to engage in church multiplication as they prepare themselves academically for greater responsibilities and even more fruitful leadership in their churches, districts, and nations. Praise the Lord for Shepherds Global Classroom and its sound, accessible curriculum.

Dean Davis

Senior Strategist for the Global Ministries Department
One Mission Society



350 On average, 350 SGC courses are downloaded from our website every day (since June 2024).

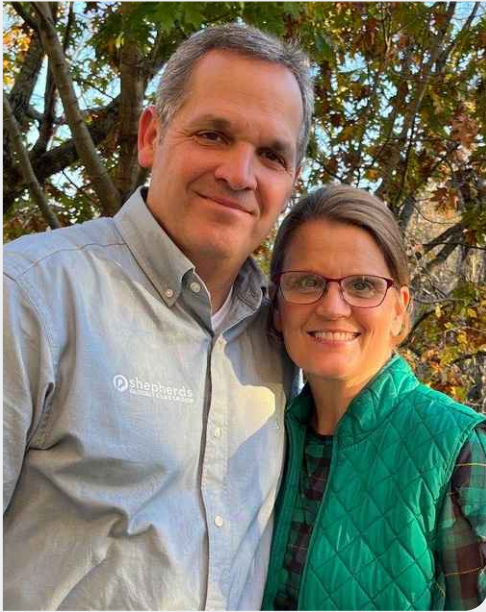
4,000 The SGC app has been downloaded by over 4,000 users in 142 countries.

50+ Official training programs have been launched in over 50 countries using the SGC curriculum.

34 The SGC curriculum is actively being translated into 34 languages.

5% 5% of our website traffic comes from India. This is the highest percentage from any one country.





From The President

Worldwide — in refugee camps in Africa, house churches in China, congregations in Ukraine, prisons of Papua New Guinea, city centers in Pakistan, rural villages in Peru, and mountain towns in Kyrgyzstan — the Lord is using Shepherds Global Classroom in the discipleship and training of this generation of underserved pastors and Christian leaders, often through our ever-expanding list of ministry partners and collaborators.

This weekend, Becky and I had the privilege of attending a missions conference and listening to a missionary couple share how SGC's curriculum has equipped them to train and disciple young adults in southern Mexico and beyond. In 2017 Brennan and Ivon Muir founded Ezra Biblical Seminary (a ministry of Bible Methodist Missions) using SGC's Spanish courses. Today, their dedicated team, in partnership with God's Bible School, has expanded their training to an online platform serving students in Mexico, Argentina, Bolivia, Ecuador, Honduras, and

Peru. Wow! I sat there amazed. Like the SGC vision, what started as a tiny seed has expanded far beyond anyone's expectations. The Muirs' testimony caused me to remember this powerful word on multiplication from Samuel Brengle: "Thou wilt gather up our little lives and the trickling streams of our influence into the great river of Thy plans and purposes, and they shall go on blessing the universe forever."

Year-End Giving Opportunity

As we approach the end of 2024 and look ahead to 2025, we do so with profound gratitude and great expectation. Much has been done this year, and the Lord has placed many opportunities before us. Imagine the difference we will make in the lives of countless pastors when we've completed translations in Mongolian, Kiswahili, Telugu, and many other languages. Imagine the missionaries and indigenous leaders we will equip. Imagine millions of blind and visually impaired people having access to biblical training because audio courses have been produced. Imagine the many pastor-trainers who will be equipped to teach others in 2025 because of Dr. McElwain and his team of volunteer trainers.

Please prayerfully consider Shepherds Global Classroom in your year-end giving plans. With your help, we will continue to equip missionaries like Brennan and Ivon and countless indigenous leaders with the tools they need to launch Christ-centered grassroots theological training programs everywhere. **Merry Christmas!**

Tim Keep
Founder & President

Year-End Goal: \$50,000 for:

Translations

- » Kiswahili
- » Mongolian
- » Telugu
- » Odia

Audio Projects

- » English
- » Spanish
- » Portuguese
- » French

Global Training

- » Uganda
- » Nigeria
- » India
- » Albania

Holiness Pilgrim Mission

Holiness Pilgrim Mission (HPM) first appointed a full-time training representative in 2016 in Ukraine. Andrei traveled throughout the country, teaching and explaining the usefulness of the SGC courses. Because of his work, well over 200 churches in Ukraine have used courses. Later, HPM began to reach into the countries of Eastern Europe, recruiting representatives and course translators. Today, courses are being used in **Russia, Georgia, Moldova, Belarus, Transnistria, and Poland**. Representatives have reported these uses of the courses:

Converts are taught Christian beliefs before baptism; ministry teams are trained in leadership, home groups go through courses; evangelism teams are trained, pastors use a weekly church service or Sunday school to teach the congregation, pastors draw from the courses for their preaching, and future pastors are trained.

These are countries where the Catholic and Orthodox churches do not preach a clear Gospel. We are thankful for the privilege of strengthening the evangelical churches of Eastern Europe.



Andrei Dotsenko
Training Representative
Holiness Pilgrim Mission



Dr. Stephen Gibson
President of Holiness Pilgrim Mission

Would You Like To Partner With SGC?



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